

Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
RELI 1710T (Summer 2020)
Religion Program
College of the Humanities

Professor Z.A. Crook

Office Hours & Contact Information: Please see below

Summer Session 2020 CUOL Course VOD Access

- Due to the Covid -19 precautions in place, CUOL will be waiving Video-on-Demand (VOD) fees for the 2020 Summer Sessions.
- All students registered in CUOL (T and V section) courses will be able to access the lectures from the CUOL VOD website. Login with your MC1 password. <https://vod.cuol.ca/vod>
- Lectures for this course will appear following the lecture schedule below, by 1pm on each day.

Course Description

RELI 1710 [0.5 credit]

Judaism, Christianity, Islam

A survey of the history, beliefs and practices of these major religious traditions.

Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

Course Objective

This course presumes no previous knowledge about Judaism, Christianity, or Islam, but it does presuppose a burning curiosity and a high motivation to learn about these three major religions, and an openness to learn in a non-judgmental way about how different people live their lives religiously. We will focus on the historical development, the beliefs, and the practices of each religion. Our approach will never be confessional, but historical and critical and above all respectful. You should never feel pressured to change your religious perspective, nor should you pressure each other to do so.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should:

- know the basic facts about the religions covered in the course, namely their histories and the vocabulary pertaining to their beliefs and practices;
- understand the academic study of religion;
- be able to think critically about religion as a human, historical, and cultural phenomenon.
- This course features an Experiential Learning component: the term paper.

Course Evaluation

Course Intro Quiz – 10% (6am May 5 – 9pm May 13)

Midterm Exam – 15% (covering **History material only**; **May 23**)

Living Religion Assignment – 25% (2 pages; due 9pm **May 29**; details below)

Final Exam – 50% (Take Home Exam; details below)

Texts

Zeba A. Crook, *Religions of a Single God* (Sheffield, UK: Equinox, 2019).

Purchase Online:

<https://journals.equinoxpub.com/index.php/books/user/purchaseBook/2668>

<https://www.amazon.ca/Religions-Single-God-Introduction-Monotheisms/dp/1781798060>

Weekly Topics and Due Dates

- There is a PowerPoint file for each lecture available in cuLearn.

May 4	A General Theory of Religion (Ch. 1)
	Histories
May 6	Judaism (Part 1 Intro + Ch. 2)
May 11	Judaism + Christianity (Ch. 3)
May 13	Christianity + Islam (Ch. 4)
May 18	<i>Victoria Day (No Class)</i>
May 20	Islam (Ch. 4)
	Orthodoxies
May 25	Judaisms (Part 2 Intro + Ch. 5)
May 27	Christianities (Ch. 6)
June 1	Islams (Ch. 7)
	Orthopraxies
June 3	Jewish (Part 3 Intro + Ch. 8)
June 8	Christian (Ch. 9)
June 10	Islamic (Ch. 10)
	The Continuing History of Religions
June 15	Latter-Day Saints and Baha'i (Part 4 Intro + Ch. 11)

Email Communication

- Carleton's Student Email (CMAIL) is the official mode of email communication for all matters having to do with the university and with this course. All communications sent by CMAIL are official, and you are expected to get them. It is not an option to claim you did not get some announcement or request because you have another email address. You can configure your CMAIL account to forward university emails to another address, but you must be reachable through your CMAIL account. Also, any communication between you and me involving your personal information (like grades) must originate from a CMAIL account (FIPPA).

Office Hours

- In order to practice physical-distancing, there can be no in-person office hours.
- I am available by email almost all the time. If you would like a Zoom conversation (video), I'd be delighted to set one up with you. Just let me know, we'll set a time, I'll send an invite, and we'll chat "in person."
- Email: zeba.crook@carleton.ca

Course Intro Quiz (Available May 5-13, 10%)

- From 6am (0600hr) on May 5 until 9pm (2100hr) on May 13, an on-line quiz is available through cuLearn
- This quiz covers the first lecture and the syllabus. Yes, it's that easy!
- This quiz is available for two days after the last day of registration. Because of that, it cannot be made up if you've registered late but missed that fact.

Midterm Exam (Saturday May 23, on CuLearn; 15%)

- Exam: 6am-11:00pm
- 80 multiple choice questions; 60 min exam
- Covering only the material relating to the History section of the course.

Living Religion Assignment (Due 9pm May 29; 25%)

- Important: See **Assignment Submission Instructions** on p. 6.
- 2 pages (double-spaced, standard font and margins, and absolutely no longer than 2 pages)
- Choose **ONLY ONE** religion on which to do the assignment. Do not do more than one assignment, and do not combine religions.
- In this assignment, you will live as a Jew, a Christian, **or** a Muslim. You are not required to change your beliefs, nor to pretend you believe something you don't.

This is an exercise of orthopraxy – to learn how religious people live, not what or how they believe.

- **Judaism: Living an Orthodox Sabbath**
 - **Choose any sundown Friday – sundown Saturday before the due date**
 - Things you should try NOT to do:
 - not turn a light, but you can leave certain lights on (choose carefully), or use candles (with caution!)
 - no tearing toilet paper (torn in advance)
 - no cooking food (but if you have a crock pot with food in it you can leave it on, but don't burn your house down!)
 - no driving
 - no doing dishes, house cleaning, or other chores
 - no buying anything (you cannot use money at all)
 - no listening to radio, no TV, no use of computer, iPod, telephone, cell phone
 - no riding bikes or other recreational activities
 - you can sing, but can't play a musical instrument
 - no homework, but non-work reading is okay (as long as you don't take notes or write)
 - Things you should try to do:
 - whatever you eat, try to eat in a conservative kosher manner, avoiding the obvious things (pork, shellfish, mixing milk and meat in the same meal, bugs, and food sacrificed to idols), but you do not have to ensure the rest of your food is kosher or worry about using two sets of dishes for milk and meat.
 - eat Sabbath supper with family and friends (both if possible)
 - sit, talk, laugh, celebrate, spend “quality” time with your significant other
 - On Saturday, eat whenever you normally would (this is not a fast), visit with friends who live within walking distance, go to a park, go for a short walk, socialise, nap, read a book, relax, reflect, meditate, think about the world, think about the environment and your effect on it.
 - Say good bye to the Sabbath at sundown
 - **Reflection Questions:** In your reflection
 - consider how you found Sabbath observance: freeing? a burden?
 - consider what it was like to limit consumption. How much do we take for granted in our world? How much do we consume (energy, food) in a day? Do we really need everything we consume?
 - Do you think that living under quarantine and with the protocols of physical distancing make this exercise easier or more difficult?

- **Christianity: Living the Sermon on the Mount for three days**
 - Choose any three consecutive days before the due date
 - Ways to live according the sermon on the mount (somewhat tongue-in-cheek):
 - Avoid the appearance of wealth and power (Matt 5:5)
 - Be just and merciful in all things (5:6-7)
 - Think pure thoughts (5:8)
 - Actively find ways to foster peace (5:9)
 - DON'T try to get beat up (Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you)
 - Do not be angry with or insult others in any way (5:22-24)
 - If you have wronged someone recently, set things right (5:25-26)
 - Do not look at another person with lust (5:27)
 - DON'T blind or maim yourself (5:29-30)
 - Do not break up with anyone in this time (5:31-32)
 - Turn the other cheek, if anything is asked of you, give it, give to everyone who begs from you (5:39-42; 6:2), but do so while practicing physical distance.
 - Love your enemies (5:44-48)
 - Avoid worrying about things you cannot control (5:25-34)
 - Don't judge others (7:1)
 - Don't be hypocritical (7:2-5)
 - Treat others as you would like to be treated (7:12)
 - **Reflection Questions:**
 - Christians often seek to do what Jesus would do. Taking the Sermon on the Mount as an example of what Jesus would do, what do you think?
 - Was the Sermon on the Mount intended to be a *practical* guide to daily living for regular people, or do you think it set up an impossible ideal?
 - Do you think that living under quarantine and with the protocols of physical distancing make this exercise easier or more difficult?
- **Islam: Three Day Ramadan**
 - Choose any three consecutive days before the due date
 - Fast starts at sundown on day 1, and ends at sundown three days later.
 - On each of the three evenings prior to a day of fasting, you should state out loud, to yourself or to others, that you are fasting (and not for instance accidentally missing meals).
 - If you want to eat on the morning of a fast, eating must be completed **before sunrise**. You can also eat as soon as the sun sets. It is universally acknowledged that eating small meals at sunset and sundown (and not pigging out) will make the fast easier. Likewise, eating good foods (proteins, nuts, dried fruit) will make things easier (as opposed to potato chips and ice cream).

- Remember the fast is complete: no food in any form (which includes gum and candies as well as food you “eat”), no drink in any form, not even brushing your teeth, since it is impossible not to swallow tooth paste or the water you rinse your mouth out with.
- Ramadan is a time not only of fasting, but of purity.
- Between sunrise and sunset in your fast you should avoid all sensual pleasures: not just food and drink (in all forms), but smoking, sexual thoughts, sex, anger, jealousy.
- In keeping with Islam, when you do eat, avoid pork and any form of alcohol.
- **Reflection Questions:**
 - You likely fasted alone for this exercise. How much different would it be to fast as a member of a community? You also fasted in Canada. How much different would it be to fast in a majority-Muslim community?
 - What sort of role do you think fasting plays in spirituality or religion?
 - Do you think that living under quarantine and with the protocols of physical distancing make this exercise easier or more difficult?

Instructions for Living Religion Assignment

- NOTE: You MUST choose an exercise in a different religion from your own. If you were raised in a Christian, Jewish, or Muslim household, you cannot do an assignment in your own tradition, even if you claim to be agnostic or no longer practicing. Be prepared to explain your decision if I question it.
- Assignments must be 2 pages, written into the template provided on cuLearn. They may not be longer than 2 pages. Can it be shorter? Of course! I won't penalize short papers because they usually penalize themselves by being short. They must be double-spaced, 12 point font, with standard 1 inch margins. The manipulation of these things in order to make a longer paper appear shorter is unacceptable. Efficiency of language and focus on a task are required for working within assigned page- or word-limitations.
- Proof-read your work several times before handing it in, or ask someone whose writing skills are strong to do it. Needless and countless errors of spelling, grammar, and syntax are a serious impediment to effective writing and communication, and these *will* affect your grade. Take a low grade on this assignment seriously, as the expectations of writing quality and clarity in university become greater and greater each year. Yes, even for Engineering students!
- A paper that is **any amount** longer than 2 pages will face a 10% length-penalty. Papers that show no regard at all for the directions provided here (by page limits, appearance, or content) will be returned ungraded. Therefore, read the directions carefully and follow them.

Assignment Submission Instructions

- All papers must be submitted through cuLearn, whether on time or late.
- Your file must be named in the following format: LASTNAME SABBATH, or LASTNAME SERMON, or LASTNAME RAMADAN. That way I can tell just from looking at the file name whose paper it is and which exercise you did. Example: <Save as> CROOK RAMADAN. If your file is improperly named, I will have to reject it, and it will face late penalties if I do not have the proper file by the deadline.
- Papers received by 9pm May 29 (or before) will be considered on-time. Any papers submitted after 9pm May 29 (even by one minute) will be given a penalty of 2%. After that (starting at midnight), the penalty is an additional 2% per day. I will use the time provided by cuLearn to assess late-penalties. I will be available at my computer around the deadline if you run into a computer issue and need my help submitting your paper. Also, don't just submit it and forget about it, just in case I need to "reject" the paper and you need to re-submit it.
- Retroactive extensions will be not granted, except according to the rules of the university: personal and family emergencies (for which documentation must be provided).
- Papers MUST be submitted as .doc., .docx, or .rtf. You **may not** submit in other formats (e.g., .pdf, .pages). Papers submitted in an incorrect format will be rejected (because we can't open or edit the file), and then considered late.
- Retain Copies of Work Submitted: It is crucial that you retain an electronic copy of all assignments/take home tests submitted in every course. Also remember to do a computer/disk back-up.

Final Exam (Take Home Exam, Due on the last day of Final Exam period)

- Your take home final exam for this course is to create a final exam for this course.
- This final exam should cover the whole course, with the following breakdown: 45 questions for the history section of the course; 45 questions for the Theology section; 45 questions for the Practices section; and 15 questions for the Living Religions section. **Total** = 150 questions
- Each question should have the correct answer clearly marked
- The entirety of the exam must be written by each student individually. This is not a team project. Exams that look too similar (in the wording of questions, in the structure of questions, in the questions asked) will be treated the same way as any essay or report that looks too similar to another. They will be considered as potential cases of plagiarism and scrutinized carefully.
- Grammar, spelling, and clarity of wording count. It's not a fair exam question if it's confusing, vague, or ambiguous. They don't have to be complicated to be good questions.
- Every question should have only one correct answer.
- The content of the questions, the correct answers, and spelling conventions should be based on the information provided in the textbook, slides, and lectures.

- Retroactive extensions will be not granted, except according to the rules of the university: personal and family emergencies (for which documentation must be provided).
- Exams **MUST** be submitted as .doc., .docx, or .rtf. You **may not** submit in other formats (e.g., .pdf, .pages). Papers submitted in an incorrect format will be rejected (because we can't open or edit the file), and then considered late.
- Retain Copies of Work Submitted: It is crucial that you retain an electronic copy of all assignments/take home tests submitted in every course. Also remember to do a computer/disk back-up.



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

Academic Integrity at Carleton

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the internet. More information can be found [here](#).

Academic Accommodation Policy

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Religious obligation: write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the [Student Guide](#)

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at

613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the [PMC website](#) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion is below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value. Where the course credit is greater or less than one credit, the grade points are adjusted proportionately.

[Grading System](#)

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

Statement on Class Conduct

The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity, prevent discrimination and harassment, and preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work.

Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor and **in all cases this must occur no later than three (3.0) working days after the term work was due.**

The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. More information is available [in the calendar](#).

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of a serious illness/emergency or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made. [More information](#).

The application for a [deferral](#) must:

1. be made in writing or online to the Registrar's Office no later than **three working days** after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation and, in cases of illness, by a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination, or by appropriate documents in other cases. Medical documents must specify the date of the onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [forms and fees page](#).

Any questions related to deferring a Final Exam or Final Assignment/Take Home Examination should be directed to the [Registrar's Office](#).

Withdrawal From Courses

Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Important dates can be found [here](#).

Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal

Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend – you must withdraw in Carleton Central within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. [More information](#)

Department Contact Information

College of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop box for CLCV, HUMS LATN GREK Term Papers and assignments is outside 300 P.A.

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall (613)520-2809
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop Box is outside of 300 P.A.

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall (613)520-2100

Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Drop box for RELI and SAST Term Papers and assignments is outside of 2A39 P.A.

Registrar's Office 300Tory (613)520-3500

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/>

Student Resources on Campus

[CUKnowHow Website](#)

[Academics: From registration to graduation, the tools for your success.](#)